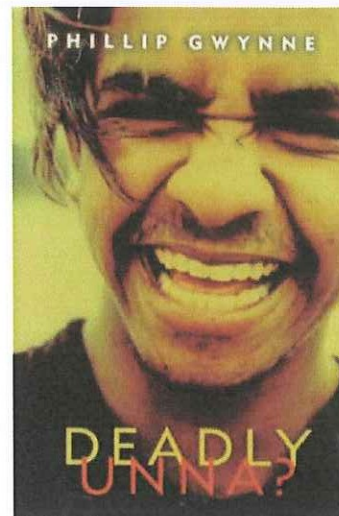


# Deadly, Unna?



Deadly, Unna is divided into 2 parts:

- |                |               |  |
|----------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Winter:</b> | <b>Action</b> | Local football competition.<br>Short friendship between Blacky and Dumby develops.<br>Sport only factor which unites people.                             |
| <b>Summer:</b> | <b>Action</b> | Revolves around beach.<br>Influx of campers. Blacky is smitten by camper, Cathy,<br>and in his desire for her approval, he forgets his<br>Nunga friends. |

## DEFINITIONS:

### Racism:

The belief that a particular race of people is better than others.

### Racial Prejudice:

To "pre-judge" people. To make a judgement about people before you know them.

# Blacky's Journey



## (1) Beginning

- ◆ Blacky not aware of how racist his friends and family were.
- ◆ The tension and attitude between the Nungas and Goonyas was very real and very serious.
- ◆ Blacky's friends always made racial comments among themselves. Blacky's reaction was to go along with his friends and be a racist.
- ◆ Racist jokes at the front bar of the pub. (The Nungas stick to the back bar.)
- ◆ "Mate of yours now, is he?"  
"No way. Not him. I hate his guts." (p.25)

## (2) Mad Dog pushed Blacky's head into a pole. Dumby saved Blacky from certain injury. There is then a fight between Dumby and Mad Dog. After Dumby has been punched in the side of the face by Mad Dog, Mad Dog makes a racist comment:

"Don't shake hands with no boongs." (p.29)

Blacky thanks Dumby for saving him.

Blacky says: "Now I could stop hating Dumby's guts." (p.30)

Blacky starts to become aware of the racial prejudice in his town.

## (3) When Blacky sits in the shed with Clarence, he notices the racist comment in the graffiti on the wall:

"Boongs piss off!"

Blacky feels uncomfortable and guilty while Clarence sits under the graffiti.



- (4) Mark Arks received the B.O.G. (Best On Ground) trophy instead of Dumby. Blacky realised how racist his town was. He runs outside with a lot of anger building up inside him.

"Mark Arks getting B.O.G. It's bullshit. That's Dumby's trophy." (p.133)

This is a turning point in Blacky's view of the town.

Through friendship with Dumby, Blacky starts to see the town through different eyes. He questions things he previously accepted:

Racist Jokes

Rude Graffiti

Separation of  
black and white

Blacky sees and resents racism in his community.

"Somehow the most perfect morning of my life wasn't so perfect anymore."

When Pickles asked Blacky (in front of Cathy) if "that Abo was his girlfriend."

The conflict continues: "the town didn't have too much to do with one another." This conflict challenges Blacky's sense of justice and loyalty.

#### (5) Dumby's Death

Climax of book – a violent and tragic act.

Blacky's determination to attend Dumby's funeral marks a major turning point in Blacky's life.

Others' Opinions:

When Blacky told Pickles and Darcy about Dumby's funeral, they thought he deserved to die.

"The old mad reckons he got what he deserved. Yeah."  
(Pickles, p.206)

Blacky knows his action will: (a) put an end to his growing friendship with Cathy; and (b) his father will be very angry with him.

He went to the funeral to show respect.

This experience gives him the courage to make a further stand.

This visit to THE POINT shakes his whole view of the town and himself – he finds that the stories about the Nungas ripping the doors and windows off their home are not true.



- (6) Blacky and his siblings paint over "Boongs Piss Off" graffiti.  
He is standing up for something important.  
Blacky can't change the attitudes of THE PORT overnight.  
He has taken responsibility for something he CAN change:  
"not forever, but for tonight anyway."  
Blacky stands up to his father regarding the graffiti on his father's shed. (It was as if his father wanted the sign.) His father says:  
"Are you fucking off your mind?" (p.264)  
Blacky: "I can't put it back." → Blacky stands up to his father.  
He has developed an awareness that his friends, family and town are all racist.
- (7) Blacky is working things out as he goes. He is working out how the world works and who he wants to be in that world.  
He is working out what his point of view is. He is making a stand for what he believes.  
He has matured and is standing up for something important.
- (8) "Colour was seeping back into my world. It wasn't grey anymore." (p.281)  
Blacky has matured as a result of various experiences and relationships.

At The End:

Blacky is:

- Confident
- Outgoing
- Mature
- No longer racist
- Attitude to life has changed
- Certainly NOT a "gutless wonder"

"I was happy. Happier than a pig in mud. I was as happy as Larry." (p.273)